

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) Some incidents of ticketless travelling by police personnel in trains do come to notice. Police personnel found travelling without ticket are penalized as per provisions of the Railway Act. To check such illegal practice, minimum penalty for ticketless/irregular travel has been enhanced from Rs. 50/- to Rs. 250/- with effect from 01-07-2004. Such incidents are also brought to the notice of concerned Police Authorities from time to time.

Criteria for superfast trains

†3323. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present criteria for superfast trains and speed fixed per km/per hour for such trains;
- (b) whether the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways has recommended to keep only such trains under superfast category which run with a speed of 75 kilometre per hour and above; and
- (c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Trains, whose average speed on the entire run in both Up & Dn. directions is minimum 55 kmph on Broad gauge and 45 kmph on Metre Gauge, are designated as superfast trains.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Security mechanism on trains and stations

3324. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that proposals worth Rs. 17.71 crores put forward by the Railway Protection Force to procure explosive vapour trace

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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RAJYA SABHA

detectors, X-Ray baggage inspection machines, X-Ray body scanner portals and metal detectors etc. are gathering dust with the Northern Railways for months.

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and by when these are likely to be approved;

(c) whether it is a fact that having any of these items installed at the Old Delhi Railway Station could have helped in detection of the explosive materials before these were taken on board the Delhi-Attari Special; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to install the security mechanisms on its trains and railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) No, Sir. This proposal is under process.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) One X-Ray Baggage Inspection Machine, three door frame metal detectors and ten hand held metal detectors have been procured for Platform No. 18/Old Delhi Railway Station after the incident and 03 Close Circuit Television and Cameras have been installed.

Northern Railway has identified following stations as sensitive and vulnerable from security point of view. These are New Delhi, Delhi Main, Ghaziabad, Hazarat Nizammuddin, Chandigarh, Saharanpur, Ambala, Moradabad, Hapur, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Dehradun, Haridwar, Lucknow and Varanasi. Entry and exit of these stations are proposed to be regulated. Closure of unimportant entry and exit gate.

- Railway passengers and their luggage is proposed to be checked at entry points with the help of hand held and door frame metal detectors.
- Frisking of Railway passengers will be done at entry of above stations by Railways Protection Force and Government Railway Police staff.
- X-Ray Baggage machines are proposed to be installed at these stations for screening of baggage and parcel.
- Boundary wall/fencing is proposed to be built around these stations for stopping unauthorized entry and trespass.

- Close Circuit Television system is proposed to be installed to cover every nook and corner of these stations to keep watch on criminals, suspicious persons, unclaimed luggage, etc.
- All the important passenger trains including Rajdhani/Shatabdi etc. are being escorted by the RPF personnel.

Late running trains

3325. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of late running trains during 2006 and 2007, so far, alongwith the extent of delay in each case;
- (b) the reasons of late running of each case; and
- (c) the responsibility fixed in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Train-wise data is not maintained. However, the overally punctuality performance in 2006-2007 on Broad Gauge (BG) is 91.7% and 98.4% on Metre Gauge (MG) as compared to 91.2% on Broad (BG) and 97.6% on Metre Gauge (MG) in 2005-2006 respectively.

(b) The reasons for late running of trains include not only those which are attributable to the Railways such as asset failures, extra time taken for loading & unloading parcels but also those which are beyond the control of Railways such as miscreant activities natural calamities like cyclonic storms, damage to track due to breaches, law and order problems, bad weather, cattle run over & electricity grid failures.

(c) 2002 persons have been taken up during 2006-2007 for late running of trains.

Proposal for new rail lines in Rajasthan

3326. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many new rail line proposals of Rajasthan have, so far, been received/included in the Rail Budget for 2005-06 and 2006-07 for conducting survey work: